Reply Under 37 C.F.R. §1.111

Group Art Unit: 2142 Application No. 10/026,385

Filed: 12/21/2001

Attorney Docket No.: RSW920010210US1

## **AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

- 1. (Original) A messaging system comprising:
  - at least one message server;
  - a plurality of topics stored in said at least one message server;
- a plurality of subtopics associated with at least one of said topics in said at least one message server; and,
- a dynamic topic partitioning system configured to partition said at least one of said topics into said subtopics.
- 2. (Currently Amended) The message system of claim 1, wherein said message server is Java AVA(TM) message service (JMS) compliant.
- 3. (Original) The message system of claim 1, wherein said at least one message server resides in at least one process address space.
- 4. (Currently Amended) The message system of claim 3, wherein said at least one process address space is a Java-AVA(TM) virtual machine.
- 5. (Original) The message system of claim 1, further comprising a plurality of threads of execution, each said thread hosting a process for communicating a message between one of said subtopics in said at least one message server and a message subscriber.

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6. (Original) A dynamic topic partitioning system comprising:

a message interface through which message publishers can post messages to selected topics, and from which message subscribers can request messages which have been published to selected topics;

a subtopic store configured to distribute messages of said selected topics within associated subtopics; and,

a request processor in which requests to post and retrieve messages to and from individual ones of said selected topics can be converted into message system requests to respectively post and retrieve messages to and from said associated subtopics in said subtopic store, said request processor processing each of said converted message system requests in individual threads of execution.

- 7. (Currently Amended) The dynamic topic partitioning system of claim 6, wherein said message interface comports with the Java-AVA(TM) message service (JMS) specification.
- (Original) A message system servicing method comprising the steps of:
  intercepting message requests for a selected topic from subscribers in the message
  system;

associating said message requests with a plurality of subtopics created for said selected topic; and,

servicing said message requests with messages in said subtopics from within separate threads of execution for each subtopic-subscriber pair.

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9. (Original) A machine readable storage having stored thereon a computer program for performing message system servicing, said computer program comprising a routine set of instructions for causing the machine to perform the steps of:

intercepting message requests for a selected topic from subscribers in the message system;

associating said message requests with a plurality of subtopics created for said selected topic; and,

servicing said message requests with messages in said subtopics from within separate threads of execution for each subtopic-subscriber pair.